

I.

SHAL. With red wheat, Davy. But for William cook :---Are there no vounq pigeons ?

DAVY. Yes, sir.---Here is now the smith's note, for shoeing, and plough irons.

SHAL. Let it be cast⁸, and paid :---sir John, you shall not be excused.

DAVY. Now, sir, a new link to the bucket must needs be had:---And, sir, do you mean to stop any of William's wages, about the sack he lost the other day at Hinckley fair⁹ ?

SHAL. He shall answer it: Some pigeons[^]

Davy: a couple of short-legged hens: a joint of mutton ; and any pretty little tiny kickshaws, tell William cook.

DAVY. Doth the man of war stay all night, sir ?

SHAL. Yes, Davy. I will use him well: A friend of the court is better than a penny in purse^{e1}. Use his men well,, Davy: for they are arrant knaves, and will backbite.

DAVY. No worse than they are back-bitten, sir ; for they have marvellous foul linen.

SHAL. Well conceited, Davy. About thy business, Davy.

DAVY. I beseech you, sir, to countenance William Visor of Win^cot against Clement Perkes of the hill.

ing scene may be added that of justice's clerk Davy has almost as many employments as Scrub in The Stratagem. JOHNSON

⁸ Let it be cast. That is, cast up, computed. M. MASON.
⁹ — HINCKLEY fair^{r?} *Hinckley* is a town in Leicester.

STBEVEN

* — A friend i' the court &c. So in Chaucer's Romaunt of the Rose, v. 5540.

" Friendshin is more than cattell

" *Ywrende in courte ale letter is*

" *Than penny is in nurse certis* CEEY.

" A friend in court is worth a penny in nurse" is one of Camden's proverbial sentences. See his

Remains, 4 to * 1605..

MALONE,